

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-44. (Canceled)

45. (New) A method for modulating sphingolipid-cholesterol microdomains in a patient in need of such modulation comprising administering a substance selected from the group consisting of cholesterol sulfate, GM₁ and bbG, to the patient in an amount effective to increase the detergent solubility of proteins associated with sphingolipid-cholesterol domains.

46. (New) A method for influencing the location of components and their function on/in the sphingolipid-cholesterol microdomains in a patient in need of such influencing comprising administering to said patient a substance selected from the group consisting of cholesterol sulfate, GM₁ and bbG in an amount effective to influence the location of components and their function on the sphingolipid-cholesterol microdomains.

47. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said components are proteins.

48. (New) The method according to claim 47, wherein said proteins are anchor proteins, acylated proteins, Src kinases and/or cholesterol-anchored proteins and other raft proteins.

49. (New) The method according to claim 47, wherein said proteins are glycosylphosphatidylinositol anchor proteins, kinases of the Src family, influenza virus hemagglutinin and other viral proteins and/or caveolin-1, 2 or 3 in the sphingolipid-cholesterol microdomain.

50. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said components are protein clusters and wherein said effective amount is a protein cluster disassembling effective amount.

51. (New) A method for modulating sphingolipid-cholesterol microdomains in a patient in need of such modulation, comprising administering a substance selected from the group consisting of cholesterol sulfate, GM₁ and bbG, to the patient at a dose of from 3 mg to 30 mg per kg body weight per day.

52. (New) The method according to claim 45, wherein said substance is cholesterol sulfate.